

From: Joe Dorant <jdorant@moses-ma.ccsend.com> on behalf of Joe Dorant <jdorant@moses-ma.org>
Sent: Thursday, April 21, 2011 10:56 AM
To: Hanchett, James (DPH)
Subject: URGENT - Corrected Tele #We need your help!

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April 21, 2011

Dear MOSES Members,

As you all have heard by now, the House budget, released last week, includes dramatic cuts to DEP, DCR and the Department of Public Health. These cuts would result in an astounding number of layoffs, which would include many MOSES members.

IT IS CRUCIAL THAT MEMBERS ACT TODAY !

We must send the message that these funds need to be restored to levels that allows us to fulfill the mandates of our agencies.

With Earth Day less than 24 hours from now, the environment is facing cuts more severe than it has ever seen in its lifetime. Attend the Earth Day lobby event today at noon in the State House and visit with your Representative to tell him or her about the important work that you do.

We need you to call your State Representative at 617 722-2000 THIS WEEK. Urge them to support the following amendments during budget debate next week:

- For DEP (2200-0100): Amendments 226 and 568
- For DPH (4510-0100): Amendment 630 and 647
- For DCR (2810-0100): Amendment 208 and 563
 - Give your name and town.
 - Ask to speak to the Representative. If they are not available, ask to speak to a staff member.
 - Let them know their support of funding for DPH, DCR and DEP is important to you.

These line items must be restored to protect public health, safety and the environment.

To find your State Representative, go to www.wheredovotema.com or www.mass.gov/legis

For additional information about the amendments MOSES is supporting and opposing during House budget debate next week, please see our fact sheet below.

[budget amendment fact sheet](#)

Background

DEP administers many of the Commonwealth's crucial environmental monitoring and permitting processes. The proposed 17% cuts would mean that the agency would have to lay off 120 staff members, limit technical assistance to municipalities, close a regional office, limit drinking water testing and slow permitting processes for months, hampering Massachusetts' fragile economic recovery. The proposed cuts to DCR would mean that an additional 10 parks could see closures this summer and staff would be cut back considerably. Last year we saw a 30% rise in visits to State and Urban Parks, it makes no sense to cut funding when families are depending on these services for the recreation opportunities. DPH saw cuts of 25% in the House's FY2012 budget. This will amount to laying off staff, including chemists and epidemiologists responsible for monitoring and addressing infectious diseases as they arise in the Commonwealth.

PLEASE ACT TODAY !

Thanks,
Joe

MOSES
Joe Dorant
President

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